



Press Release

Immediate Release

10 July 2026

Mansfield Support Worker Takes Fundraising to New Heights

A support worker from Nottinghamshire overcame her fear of heights and took to the skies in an effort to raise vital funds for a cancer charity.

Wiktorja Poparda went above and beyond with a charity skydive, raising £412 for Cancer Support UK, which provides emotional and practical support to those affected by cancer.

Wiktorja is a support worker at [Cherry Tree House](#), a residential service in Mansfield Woodhouse for people with learning disabilities, autism and complex needs, run by Cygnets Social Care.

"I wanted to take on the skydive in memory of my grandmother who sadly passed away from lung cancer in 2024. Losing her had a huge impact on my life and my mental health," explained Wiktorja.

"Seeing first-hand the emotional, physical and mental toll cancer takes has shown me just how important it is to have the right support during such an overwhelming time. I wanted to do something meaningful to honour my grandmother's memory while helping others who are fighting cancer."

Motivated by a cause close to her heart, Wiktorja decided to tackle her fear of heights head-on and take the leap for charity.

She said: "Jumping out of a plane was a huge challenge for me, but it's nothing compared to what those living with cancer go through every day. Cancer affects so many people and not everyone has access to the support they need.

"Charities like Cancer Support UK provide invaluable help to people and families during some of the most difficult times in their lives, so I wanted to do my part and support their work.

"I wanted to show that even when something feels frightening, it can be worth facing your fears if it means making a positive difference to others."

Wiktorja has worked at Cherry Tree House for seven months in her first care-based role and was commended by the team for her "resilience, dedication and outstanding empathy."

Showing their team spirit and support, both staff and individuals supported at the Cygnet Social Care service turned up to cheer Wiktorina on.

"The support I have received from Cherry Tree House meant so much to me. Having my colleagues, residents and my mother-in-law there on the day gave me the confidence I needed to go through with the skydive as I was absolutely terrified," explained Wiktorina.

"Knowing they were cheering me on made all the difference. I honestly don't think I could have done it without their encouragement and support; I'll always be grateful for everything they did. I feel very fortunate to be a part of such a supportive and caring team, it really does feel like one big family."